

## Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NIC-01 SIL-01 LAB-04

SY-04 OPR-01 OC-05 CCO-00 CU-02 /070 W

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O R 271745Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1538

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY OSLO

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 464

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: SOCIALISTS HANGING TOUGH

1. SOCIALIST (PS) SECGEN SOARES TOLD PRESS CONFERENCE MORNING JAN 27 THAT PS WOULD REMAIN IN GOVERNMENT. RESPONDING TO DOUBTS ABOUT PS PLANS WIDELY EXPRESSED LAST WEEK, SOARES SAID PS WOULD NOT QUIT IN PROTEST OVER LOSING SINGLE UNION CONFEDERATION ISSUE IN COUNCIL OF MINISTERS.

2. SOARES SAID PS STAYING TO PRESERVE DEMOCRACY. IF PS PULLED OUT IT COULDN'T PREVENT MONOPOLIZATION OF MEDIA, MANIPULATION OF WORKING CLASS, AND INDEFINITE POSTPONEMENT OF ELECTIONS. HE EMPHASIZED THAT FAILURE TO HOLD ELECTIONS COULD LEAD TO CIVIL WAR, FOREIGN INTERVENTION, AND ECONOMIC BLOCKADE. SOARES CALLED COMMUNIST PARTY (PCP) ANTI-DEMOCRATIC, AND SAID UNION LAW WAS ERROR WHICH WORKING CLASS WOULD NOT FAIL TO CORRECT.

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3. PS HAS SCHEDULED LARGE RALLY AND MARCH FOR DOWNTOWN LISBON ON FRIDAY EVENING, JAN 31. PCP, ALONG WITH MES, MDP, AND FSP PROMPTLY SCHEDULED RALLY AT VIRTUALLY SAME TIME AND CLOSE TO SAME PLACE. SOARES AIDE, SA MACHADO, TOLD AMBASSADOR JAN 27 THAT PRIME MINISTER GONCALVES HAD TOLD PCP TO HOLD RALLY AT SAME TIME IN ORDER TO PROVIDE PRETEXT FOR CANCELLING BOTH RALLIES. ACCORDING TO SA MACHADO, SOARES WILL HOLD HIS RALLY REGARDLESS.

4. COMMENT: GLOVES OFF ATTACK BY SOCIALISTS AGAINST PCP AND ITS ALLIES, INITIATED BY ZALGADO ZENHA IN HIS ASSAULT ON LABOR LAW, THUS CONTINUES IN FULL FORCE. PS SEES FRIDAY RALLY AS DEMONSTRATION OF NON-COMMUNIST STRENGTH AND IMPORTANT WARNING TO LEFTISTS IN GOVERNMENT AND ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT. CARLUCCI

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## Message Attributes

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